

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GABORO 01055 071608Z

43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

IO-10 AID-05 PC-01 /069 W

----- 117589

R 071235Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6882

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L GABORONE 1055

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, BC

SUBJECT: BOTSWANA NATIONAL FRONT (BNF) ON ATTACK

REF: A. GABORONE 452 NOTAL

B. GABORONE 961 NOTAL

C. GABORONE 1016 NOTAL

D. GABORONE 1053

1. PRESIDENT OF OPPOSITION BOTSWANA NATIONAL FRONT (BNF) BATHOEN GASEITSIWE HAS PUBLICLY DENIED HE SUPPORTED GOVERNMENT'S NEW POLICY ON TIBAL GRAZING LANDS IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE A CONTINUING SERIES OF BNF MOVES AGAINST PRESIDENT KHAMA'S RULING BOTSWANA DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

2. BNF LEADERS WERE APPARENTLY INVOLVED IN INSTIGATING RECENT LABOR DISORDERS AT SELEBI-PIKWE (SEE REF D). ON AUGUST 6 BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS CARRIED STATEMENTS BY REX NDZINGE, DEPUTY LEADER BNF, ACCUSING GOVERNMENT OF UNDULY TAKING SIDES WITH MANAGEMENT IN THE SELEBI-PIKWE LABOR DISPUTE AND CALLING FOR A COMMISSION OF INQUIREY FROM THE INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GABORO 01055 071608Z

3. COMMENT: PRESIDENT KHAMA HAS BEEN CONCERNED FOR SOME TIME ABOUT BNF RESORTING TO UNCONSTITUTIONAL MEANS TO GAIN POWER. HE PUBLICLY WARNED IN MARCH THAT BNF WOULD RESORT TO SUCH SEDITIONOUS ACTS AS ASSASSINATIONS AND SABOTAGE TO TOPPLE THE GOVERNMENT AND FORCE THE PEOPLE OF BOTSWANA TO VOTE THE BNF INTO POWER. OVER THE PAST YEAR THE BNF HAS BEEN INVOLVED IN FORMENTING ANTI-WHITE SENTIMENTS EVEN BY PERSONAL ATTACKS ON WHITE CITIZENS IN THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT.

4. PRESIDENT KHAMA HAS MADE IT QUITE CLEAR THAT GOB WILL MAINTAIN LAW AND ORDER AND WILL TAKE DRASTIC ACTION AGAINST BNF LEADERS UNLESS THEY CEASE ACTIVITIES WHICH THE PRESIDENT APPARENTLY REGARDS AS SUBVERSIVE.

BOLEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, POLICIES, SPEECHES, LABOR UNIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975GABORO01055
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750273-0128
From: GABORONE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750871/aaaackif.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 GABORONE 452
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BOTSWANA NATIONAL FRONT (BNF) ON ATTACK
TAGS: PINS, BC, BNF, (KHAMA, SERETSE M)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006